

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PA-03 PRS-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THEHAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EEC DA

SUBJ: EC PRIORITIES UNDER DANISH PRESIDENCY

1. IN RECENT WEEKS, SEVERAL DANISH NEWSPAPERS HAVE PUBLISHED STATEMENTS BY FONECONMIN IVAR NORGAARD (OR BY MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF) ON COMMUNITY GOALS WHICH HE HOPES WILL BE ACHIEVED DURING DANISH PRESIDENCY ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1973. NORGAARD FEELS THESE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED CONCURRENTLY AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL AS PACKAGE BEFORE YEAR END. GOALS IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE, WERE LISTED AS FOLLOWS:
A) TRANSITION TO SECOND PHASE OF ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION,
B) ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND.

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C) ADOPTION OF AN ACTION PROGRAM FOR LABOR AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS,

D) IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION PROGRAM FOR INDUSTRIAL POLICY, TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE.
E) ADOPTION OF ACTION PROGRAM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.
2. NORGAARD GAVE A "SECONDARY" LIST OF PRIORITY ITEMS ALSO:
A) PARTICIPATION IN GATT MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.
B) REVISION OF CAP.
C) RENEWAL OF TRADE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS WITH ABOUT 40 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
D) DRAFTING OF COMMON POLICIES FOR ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND FISHERIES, INCLUDING FISHING LIMITS.
3. EMBASSY COMMENT: TIMETABLES FOR MANY OF PRIORITY ITEMS NORGAARD LISTED WERE, OF COURSE, LAID DOWN BY 1972 EC SUMMIT WITH DANES FINDING THEMSELVES IN CHAIR AT TIME OF DEADLINES. DANES, WHO HAD HOPED TO MAKE NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION BY BRINGING MORE ORDER AND EFFICIENCY TO EC DECISION-MAKING DURING THEIR PRESIDENCY, NOW ARE BECOMING SOMEWHAT ALARMED OVER PROSPECTS OF HECTIC BARGAINING, TRADE-OFFS, ETC. OVER WHICH THEY MUST PRESIDE IF PACKAGE OF PRIORITIES IS TO BE ADOPTED BY YEAR-END. THEY ALSO HAVE ADDITIONAL, SPECIFICALLY

DANISH, WORRY THAT SMALL BUT DETERMINED ANTI-EC MINORITY WITHIN PARLIAMENT MIGHT USE CRITICAL PERIOD IN DECEMBER TO BLOCK DANISH ACCEPTANCE IN COUNCIL OF FINAL PACKAGE PROPOSAL.

4. LATTER CONCERN CONTINUES TO WORRY FONOF OFFICIALS DEALING WITH PARLIAMENT ON EC MATTERS FOR VERY UNDERSTANDABLE REASONS. FOLLOWING ALLEGED GIVE-AWAY OF AGRICLTURAL BENEFITS DUE DENMARK BY AGMINISTER IN COUNCIL MEETING LAST FEBRUARY, MARKETS COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT OBTAINED GOVT AGREEMENT THAT IT WOULD INFORM COMMITTEE IN ADVANCE OF ALL POSITIONS IT WOULD TAKE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS. SO FAR, THIS PROCEDURE (WITH SUGGESTION NOT CLEARLY SPELLED OUT OF POSSIBLE VETO OF GOVT POSITIONS BY PARLIAMENT) HAS WORKED REASONABLY SMOOTHLY, BUT NO REALLY SERIOUS ISSUES HAVE YET COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE. AT LEAST ONE OF OUR FONOFF CONTACTS IS CONVINCED THAT THE SEVERAL VOCAL ANTI-EC MARKETS COMMITTEE MEMBRS ARE JUST BIDING THEIR TIME, KNOWING THEY CAN CAUSE MAXIMUM DAMAGE DURING THE YEAR-END RUSH OF EC DECISION-MAKING. WHETHER THEY CAN OBTAIN ENOUGH STRENGTH FOR A PARLIAMENTARY VETO AND WHETHER SUCH VETO WOULD BE LEGALLY BINDING ON THE GOVERNMENT ARE QUESTIONS STILL TO BE FACED.

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